

Message Text

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PAGE 01 KUWAIT 02411 231229Z
ACTION NEA-10

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EB-08 EA-12 /031 W
-----032577 240602Z /15

R 231155Z APR 78
FM AMEMBASSY KUWAIT
TO AMEMBASSY ABU DHABI
INFO AMEMBASSY SINGAPORE
SECSTATE WASHDC 767
USDOC WASHDC

UNCLAS KUWAIT 2411

E.O. 11652: N/A
TAGS: BBAK, TC
SUBJECT: REQUEST FOR BONA FIDES

REF: ABU DHABI 1103

1. GULF OIL REAL ESTATE DEVELOPMENT COMPANY (GOREDCO) KUWAIT
OFFICE PRESIDENT JAMES CARPENTER HAS RECEIVED TELEX FROM
A MR. EDWARDS, TECHNICAL ADVISOR TO THE RAS AL KHAIMAH
GOVERNMENT, REQUESTING INFO ON ROBERT TANNER SIMILAR TO REF-
TEL. HE WILL BE SENDING A TELEX REPLY TO MR. EDWARDS
TODAY CONTAINING MOST OF THE FOLLOWING MATERIAL.

2. GOREDCO KUWAIT HAD PLANS TO WORK WITH TANNER ON SOME
PLANNED PROJECTS BUT COMPANY, WHICH IS A JOINT VENTURE WITH
KUWAIT MINISTRY OF FINANCE, IS BEING DISSOLVED AND IT APPEARS
LIKELY THAT GULF WILL BE GETTING OUT OF THE REAL ESTATE
BUSINESS. HOWEVER, AN OFFICIAL FROM GOREDCO U.S. RECENTLY
VISITED THE UAE AND MAY HAVE TALKED WITH TANNER. CARPENTER
DOES NOT KNOW WHAT RESULTS, IF ANY, CAME FROM THIS MEETING.
DEPT. MAY WISH TO CONTACT GOREDCO RESTON FOR FURTHER DETAILS.

3. TANNER WAS IN THE CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS IN THE U.S.
(CARPENTER THINKS IN NEW YORK) AND LEFT THE U.S. ABOUT
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TWO YEARS AGO FOR THE UAE WHEN CONSTRUCTION BUSINESS
PLUMMETED. HE KNOWS MANY INFLUENTIAL PEOPLE IN THE UAE
BECAUSE ABOUT 10-15 YEARS AGO HE WAS ACTIVE IN AN ORGANI-
ZATION WHICH HELPED ARAB STUDENTS IN THE U.S. HE IS ON
VERY GOOD TERMS WITH THE GHORBASH FAMILY, ESPECIALLY SAID
GHORBASH, FORMER UAE AMBASSADOR TO THE U.S. TANNER HAS
MENTIONED HAVING 85 PERCENT INTEREST IN AN ENGINEERING

FIRM IN FLORIDAY CALLED RODER AND COMPANY, ADDRESS UNKNOWN.
HE ALSO APPARENTLY HAS INTERESTS IN SOME SORT OF A PUBLIC
RELATIONS FIRM IN WASHINGTON, D.C., NAME UNKNOWN.

4. CARPENTER PLANS TO DEPART KUWAIT MAY 15 AND GORED
KUWAIT WILL GO OUT OF EXISTENCE AS OF THAT TIME. S.J.
ANDERSON IS PRESENTLY OUT OF KUWAIT. IF RAK GOVERNMENT
REQUIRES MORE INFORMATION, CARPENTER OR ANDERSON CAN
PROVIDE THIS TO RAK ADVISOR DIRECTLY. GIVEN FACT THAT
TANNER HAS BEEN RESIDENT IN THE UAE FOR TWO YEARS, HIS
BUSINESS ACTIVITY IN THE U.S. DURING THIS TIME MAY HAVE
BEEN LIMITED, ACCOUNTING FOR LACK OF U.S. SOURCE INFOR-
MATION ON HIM (PARA 1 REFTL).
MAESTRONE

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X
Capture Date: 01 jan 1994
Channel Indicators: n/a
Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Concepts: n/a
Control Number: n/a
Copy: SINGLE
Draft Date: 23 apr 1978
Decaption Date: 01 jan 1960
Decaption Note:
Disposition Action: n/a
Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment:
Disposition Date: 01 jan 1960
Disposition Event:
Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1978KUWAIT02411
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00
Drafter: n/a
Enclosure: n/a
Executive Order: N/A
Errors: N/A
Expiration:
Film Number: D780174-0191
Format: TEL
From: KUWAIT
Handling Restrictions: n/a
Image Path:
ISecure: 1
Legacy Key: link1978/newtext/t19780426/aaaaawav.tel
Line Count: 76
Litigation Code IDs:
Litigation Codes:
Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: fee1c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Office: ACTION NEA
Original Classification: UNCLASSIFIED
Original Handling Restrictions: n/a
Original Previous Classification: n/a
Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a
Previous Classification: n/a
Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a
Reference: 78 ABU DHABI 1103
Retention: 0
Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED
Review Content Flags:
Review Date: 29 mar 2005
Review Event:
Review Exemptions: n/a
Review Media Identifier:
Review Release Date: N/A
Review Release Event: n/a
Review Transfer Date:
Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a
SAS ID: 2876679
Secure: OPEN
Status: NATIVE
Subject: REQUEST FOR BONA FIDES
TAGS: BBAK, TC
To: ABU DHABI
Type: TE
vdkgvwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/fee1c9a8-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc
Review Markings:
Sheryl P. Walter
Declassified/Released
US Department of State
EO Systematic Review
20 Mar 2014
Markings: Sheryl P. Walter Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 20 Mar 2014